

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2023 COLD SPRING CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Dave Heinen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The following members were found to be present: Mayor Dave Heinen and Council Members Mike Fall, Ryan Hennen, Fran Ramler, and Doug Schmitz. Others present: Kris Dockendorf, Brian Lintgen, Jon Stueve, Dylan Armstead, Munira Alimire, Brian Guggenberger, Julie Guggenberger, Craig Guggenberger, Gary Kammers, Lisa Kammers, Travis Thomsen, Julie Sabo, Bob Sabo, Cara Langston, Jim Kraemer, Brad Neugart, Mark Ficker, Tim Kraemer, Pat Donlin, Kelly Springer, Tina Barak, George Schnepf, Jeana Calfas, Julia Konop, Brenda Timm and Joe Jelovnick.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY RAMLER, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF THE MARCH 28, 2023 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes – March 14, 2023 Regular Meeting
- B. Cold Spring Fire & Rescue Relief Association One Day Liquor License for July 22, 2023 at the Cold Spring Brewing Company Distribution Center
- C. The Nicholas P. Koenig HERO Foundation – Application to Conduct a Raffle, Form LG220 – April 22, 2023 at The Great Blue Heron
- D. Rockville Lions – Application to Conduct a Raffle, Form LG230 – May 25, 2023 at Cold Spring Elementary
- E. Church of St. Boniface – Application to Conduct a Raffle, Form LG220 – May 5, 2023 at St. Boniface Church
- F. Church of St. Boniface One Day Liquor License for May 5, 2023 at the Church of Saint Boniface

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHMITZ, SECONDED BY FALL, TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

APPOINT PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER FOR TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2023

Councilor Fall explained that two qualified candidates had been interviewed and the Planning Commission was recommending the appointment of Becky Reynolds to the open seat.

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY FALL, TO APPOINT BECKY REYNOLDS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR THE TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2023. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

PRESENTATION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Dylan Armstead, Director of Planning for CEDA, along with Munira Alimire a Planning Specialist for CEDA, presented an overview of the Comprehensive Plan. Armstead stated that the Comprehensive Plan is a document that dictates the direction of the City, generally over a 20 year period. He stated the 100+ page document that consists of twelve chapters is both foundational and dynamic and should be monitored and reviewed every year. Councilor Schmitz stated he would like to postpone adoption of the plan and bring it back at the next meeting for adoption due to not having a hard copy to review prior to the meeting.

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO POSTPONE ADOPTION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND BRING IT BACK FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF FIREFIGHTER

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF FIREFIGHTER GARY OVERMAN AND THANK HIM FOR HIS 29 YEARS OF SERVICE ON THE COLD SPRING FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

TINA BARAK – PARK RENTAL REQUEST

Tina Barak presented for a waiver of the park rental fee for a community outreach event that the Equity and Inclusion Committee has planned. She stated the committee is planning on hosting an event on Saturday, May 6th at the Cold Spring Lions Park and will be reaching out to local businesses and residents to participate in the event which will have food and door prizes. Councilor Fall stated he was fine with waiving the fee, since the committee was set up by the City Council, and Councilor Schmitz stated he was against waiving the fee as it would set a precedent and other fee waiver requests would then be received.

MOTION WAS MADE BY FALL, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO APPROVE WAIVING THE \$125.00 PARK RENTAL FEE FOR THE EQUITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE TO USE LIONS PARK ON SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2023 FOR A COMMUNITY EVENT. ROLL CALL VOTE, AYES – HENNEN, FALL. NAYES – RAMLER, SCHMITZ AND HEINEN. MOTION FAILED 2-3.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORT

A. Splash Pad Hours Discussion

Stueve stated that he is a big fan of the Splash pad and sees it as a great asset. He stated that he would like to have a discussion about reducing the number of days, or hours of operation for the splash pad, to help reduce the amount of water used and the expenses that go along with the operating it. He stated he'd like to discuss changing the current hours of 10 am to 8 pm, to instead be 11 am to 7 pm with Mondays and Tuesdays being off completely. The Council was not supportive of closing the splash pad for any days but was supportive of scaling back the intensity and timers for the water features and even suggested looking at replacing features within the splash pad those that would use less water. Members of the public and the River Community Park Foundation were also supportive of this rather than reducing days or hours of operation. Stueve was directed to look at the settings and dial back the system to see what savings in water and costs that would result in before making a decision on reducing hours of the splash pad.

B. Hire Part-Time Public Works Employee

Stueve stated that Landon Winkleman has been working during the summer for two years. He stated that Winkleman is on the school work program and would be available to work three hours each day until the beginning of summer. Stueve stated that there are tasks that they could use help with now before the summer season starts. MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHMITZ, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO APPROVE HIRING LANDON WINKLEMAN TO WORK UP TO 15 HOURS PER WEEK AT \$13.00 PER HOUR, THROUGH THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR, ON THE SCHOOL WORK PROGRAM AT ROCORI HIGH SCHOOL. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

C. Updates

Stueve presented a prototype of the newly created flower basket watering structure, which is the possible solution to avoid lowering the baskets and to save the arms of volunteers who hold the watering wand to water flowers. He stated the proposed cost would be approximately \$1,250 to outfit all the poles with the watering structure. The Council requested that a prototype but installed on one of the light poles so that they can see what it looks like before making a decision on moving forward.

CITY ENGINEER REPORT

A. Project Updates

Lintgen stated that for the Water Treatment Plant, staff training is beginning. He stated that for the Industrial Pretreatment Plant the interior work of the building is continuing. He stated that the design work is continuing, on both the 2023 Reconstruction Improvements and the Lift Station #1 Project. He stated that the draft report is being finalized for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. Approve Attorney Contract

MOTION WAS MADE BY FALL, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT FOR LEGAL SERVICES WITH FLAHERTY & HOOD P.A. AND TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE CONTRACT. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

B. Approval of Placement of Decker Memorial

Dockendorf explained that Chuck Waletzko had contacted her about the installation of the Tom Decker Memorial. She stated that during previous discussions the Council wanted to give final approval of the installation location when it was closer to the work actually being completed. Craig Guggenberger, representative of W. Gohman Construction and Artistic Stone explained they would be completing a portion of the work and that memorial would be installed in the same location as the current location. He also requested that the Council waive the fee for the building permit. The Council was not supportive of waiving the building permit fee.

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO APPROVE THE PLACEMENT OF THE TOM DECKER MEMORIAL IN APPROXIMATELY THE SAME LOCATION AS THE CURRENT MEMORIAL. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

C. Appoint Committee for Library Site Acquisition and Library Building Design

Dockendorf suggested that a committee be formed to further explore potential library sites and building design. The Council suggested getting the building plans for the Annandale and Kimball libraries instead of starting from scratch on building design, since those libraries were constructed recently and are impressive facilities. MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHMITZ, SECONDED BY RAMLER, TO APPOINT COUNCILOR FALL AND COUNCILOR HENNEN TO THE LIBRARY SITE ACQUISITION COMMITTEE. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

D. Discussion of Project Costs

Dockendorf had explained that Councilor Schmitz had requested that a list of ongoing projects and their projected costs be compiled to get a better understanding of upcoming project costs and the impact of them on the future budgets. Dockendorf presented information and projected costs for upcoming projects.

E. Financial Audit

Dockendorf stated that the annual audit was conducted the previous week. She stated that it went well and the auditors will be presenting their report at the end of April.

F. Lobbyist

Dockendorf stated that there are seven lobbyists on staff with the city’s new attorney firm. The Council agreed that it might be premature now to pursue hiring lobbyist but was glad to know that the services are available for a fee.

G. Granite Landing Purchase Agreement

Dockendorf stated that the purchase agreement for the land for the new fire hall will be sent to the City Attorney to have it reviewed before coming to the Council for approval.

H. Health Insurance Gym Memberships

Dockendorf reported that she checked with the City’s health insurance agent and they had explained that discounts for gym memberships do not come from the actual health insurance company, and are instead through a partnership program.

COMMISSION UPDATES

A. Planning Commission

Councilor Hennen stated that CEDA had presented the Comprehensive Plan in detail at their meeting. He stated they also conducted the interviews for the open seat on the commission. They discussed the following items: River Links PUD parkland with Joe Wenner, assessments for commercial properties with Dan Soldner, and the improvements and tree screenings for the owned by Cold Spring Co-Op near Teals Market.

B. EDA

Councilor Ramler stated that they discussed the Kiess and Soldner lots in the downtown area, tax abatement request for KHK properties, Chamber Showcase, Habib Trucking, vacant lots for the library, and did a visit with Cinder Boutique.

C. Park Board

The Park Board did not meet.

D. Rocori Trail

Councilor Schmitz stated that representatives from the DNR were at the last meeting to discuss the Rocori Trail Construction Board plans to donate the trail to the MN DNR to be incorporated into the Glacial Lakes State Trail. They discussed requirements that need to be met over the next year before the DNR will approve taking it over. Dockendorf added that they discussed a grand opening celebration scheduled for Saturday, June 17th which will coincide with a music event at Third Street Brewhouse.

LIST OF BILLS AND ADDITIONS

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO REVIEW AND ACCEPT PAYMENT OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE ACCORDING TO THE LIST TOTALING \$79,488.50 AND SUPPLEMENTAL LIST TOTALING \$12,277.79 AS PRESENTED BY CITY STAFF. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

CLOSED SESSION

At 8:35 pm Mayor Heinen announced that pursuant to Minnesota State Statute 13D.05 Subd. 3 (a), the meeting would be closed for the purpose of a performance review of the City Administrator.

RE-OPEN MEETING

At 8:45 pm Mayor Heinen re-opened the meeting.

MOTION WAS MADE BY FALL, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO TABLE ACTION ON THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR PERFORMANCE REVIEW UNTIL THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

ADJOURN

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHMITZ, SECONDED BY RAMLER, TO ADJOURN AT 8:46 P.M., SEEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

David Heinen, Mayor

Kris Dockendorf, City Administrator